

Application No. 10/055,799  
Filed: October 25, 2001  
TC Art Unit: 1714  
Confirmation No.: 7498

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 19-22, 24-26, 29-33, 38-42, 47 and 48 have been rejected as anticipated by one or more of Bendiner, Stricklin or Treybig. These rejections are respectfully traversed for the reasons given below and reconsideration is requested.

Claims 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15, 18, 23, 27, 28, 34-37, 43-45 and 49-56 have been objected to. These claims have been rewritten in independent form, as suggested by the Examiner, as new claims 57-92 and, thus, are believed to be allowable.

Anticipation rejections

In reference to the Bendiner patent, the Examiner states that water is inherently capable of forming a moisture retentive barrier over a surface as required by the claims. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide support for such a statement. As Bendiner has not provided such a teaching and as the Examiner has not shown why one of ordinary skill would believe that pure water would have the recited property, Bendiner cannot anticipate the recited claims and the Applicants submit that the rejection has been overcome.

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Regarding the Stricklin patent, the Applicants again request that the Examiner provide support for his statement that "polar and non-polar solvents are inherently capable of forming a moisture retentive barrier" over a surface. Stricklin does not teach such a property and cannot anticipate the recited claims. Again, the Applicants submit that the rejection has been overcome.

Finally, in regards to the Trebig patent, the Applicants make the same request. The Examiner is asked to show why one of ordinary skill would believe that the recited compounds are inherently capable of forming a moisture retentive barrier over a surface. Lacking such support, the Examiner's argument must fall and Trebig cannot anticipate the recited claims. Thus, the Applicants submit that the rejection has been overcome.

The Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance and such action is requested.

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The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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